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JUN 04 2004

In re Application of :
Lori A. Houston :
Application No. 09/970,427 :
Filed: October 3, 2001 :
For: VIRTUAL VEGAS VIDEO KEYBOARD :

**OFFICE OF PETITIONS
ON PETITION**

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b), filed April 8, 2004, to revive the above-identified application.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

The above-identified application became abandoned for failure to reply in a timely manner to the non-final Office action mailed March 7, 2003, which set a shortened statutory period for reply of three (3) months. No extensions of time under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a) were obtained. Accordingly, the above-identified application became abandoned on June 8, 2003.

An extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136 must be filed prior to the expiration of the maximum extendable period for reply. See In re Application of S., 8 USPQ2d 1630, 1631 (Comm'r Pats. 1988). Accordingly, since the \$475.00 extension of time submitted with the petition on April 8, 2004 was subsequent to the maximum extendable period for reply, this fee is unnecessary and will be credited to petitioner's deposit account.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to Wan Laymon at (703) 306-5685.

The application file is being forwarded to Technology Center AU 3713.


Wan Laymon

Petitions Examiner
Office of Petitions
Office of the Deputy Commissioner
for Patent Examination Policy